

Ravalli County Board of Commissioners
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Rob Rung, Grants Officer
Water Quality Planning Bureau, DEQ
1520 E. Sixth Ave.
Helena, MT 59620-0901

December 23, 2008

Dear Mr. Rung and Committee:

The Board of Commissioners for Ravalli County wholeheartedly supports the proposed Bitterroot Valley Hazardous Waste Disposal Project.

Safe and legal hazardous waste disposal has always been difficult in Ravalli County. For years conscientious citizens had to take their used oil, paints and the like to Missoula for disposal, because our county did not have an organized collection event.

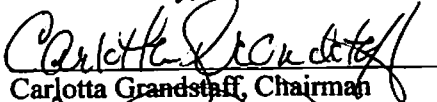
Recent efforts by our county's Environmental Health Department have made the situation much better. People can now take their fluorescent bulbs to Ace Hardware in Hamilton, and Lube Quik accepts used motor oil year-round. But this year's two organized collection events proved that there's a tremendous amount of hazardous material out there that needs to be disposed of properly.

As commissioners, we are looking at ways to fund an annual collection event, but with our current budget, there's no way we can do it this year.

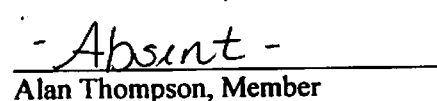
Funding another collection event in 2009 will help protect Ravalli County's air and water and will give us time to develop a long-term strategy for hazardous waste collection.


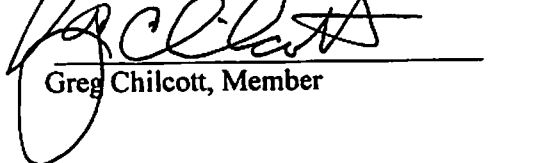
We urge you to help Lea Jordan, Ravalli County Environmental Health Department and the citizens of Ravalli County in protecting the water quality in the Bitterroot Valley by funding this worthy project.

Most Sincerely,


Carlotta Grandstaff, Chairman


Kathleen Driscoll, Member


- Absent -
Alan Thompson, Member


James E. Rokosch, Member

Greg Chilcott, Member